

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 03306 170736Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 HA-05 CU-04 ACDA-12 IO-13 /103 W
-----018220 171324Z /40

R 160730Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4133
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
RUD
A/AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST 2602
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
RUDKFM LPPAMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 274
AMEMBASSY VIENNA 6006
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRAGUE 3306

BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: CSCE, SHUM, CZ, PINS
SUBJECT: SEQUEL TO PRAGUE TRIAL

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REF PRAGUE 3032

1. OTTO ORNEST, CONVICTED OCTOBER 18 ON CHARGES OF SUBVERSION
(REFTEL) APPEARED ON CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION NOVEMBER 13 AND
READ A STATEMENT ADMITTING HIS COMPLICITY IN A PLOT TO SMUGGLE
ARTICLES OUT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR USE IN EMIGRE PUBLICATIONS
LISTY AND SVEDECTVI. TEXT OF HIS STATEMENT WAS PRINTED IN

RUDE PRAVO FOLLOWING DAY.

2. ORNEST REPUDIATED IN ADVANCE ANY ATTEMPT IN THE WEST TO MAKE HIM A "FALSE HERO" AND CAUTIONED FELLOW CITIZENS AGAINST THE WILES OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS. HE CONCLUDED HIS MEA CULPA WITH CONFESSION OF HAVING "SUCCUMBED TO BOURGEOIS BANKRUPTCY."

3. FOR THE RECORD, SWEDISH DIPLOMAT SAID TO HAVE ACTED AS AN INTERMEDIATE IS IDENTIFIED AS ONE JANSEN, NOT JOHNSSON AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (PRAGUE 3011). ORNEST'S STATEMENT ALSO NAMED MRS. URSULA MOLLER, WIFE OF FORMER DANISH AMBASSADOR, AND FORMER PAK DCM HASSAN; INTERESTINGLY, INTRODUCTION TO HIS CONFESSION SHOWED HIS TV-TAPED MEETING WITH FORMER CANADIAN DCM BONTHRON AND ANNOUNCER NOTED INTEREST OF CANADIAN EMBASSY IN THAT TAPE, BUT NEITHER ANNOUNCER NOR ORNEST MENTIONED BONTHRON BY NAME.

4. COMMENT: WE CAN ONLY GUESS AT THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH LED TO ORNEST'S PUBLIC CONFESSION, BUT THE PURPOSE, CLEARLY, IS TO IMPRESS ON LOCAL CITIZENRY THE PERILS OF CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN DIPLOMATS AND OF ENGAGING IN COMMUNICATION WITH EMIGRE PUBLISHERS IN ROME AND ELSEWHERE. MORE EXCERPTS FROM ORNEST'S CONFESSION MAY BE FORTHCOMING. SABYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL TRIALS, PRISONERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PRAGUE03306
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770426-0187
Format: TEL
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771152/aaaabsmq.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 625e3819-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PRAGUE 3032
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 568585
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEQUEL TO PRAGUE TRIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, CZ, CSCE, (ORNEST, OTTO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/625e3819-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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